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by telephone because he insists upon charging seventy cents for taking one passenger and a light trunk from Third Avenue and Tenth Street to Third Avenue and Fourteenth Street.

(d) At about 9:30 P. M., a woman with her child, calls at the station house and states that some months previously she had secured a warrant for the arrest of her husband for non-support but that it was never served as he could not be found. She shows a telegram informing her that her husband is returning to the city from a neighboring state and that he is about to take a late train for Canada. Under the circumstances mentioned in this case, state what action you would take, together with the reasons for such action.

6. In a certain precinct there are many complaints of gambling houses and handbooks on the races. State clearly and definitely how the evils should be suppressed by the Police Department assuming that the complaints are true. In your answer explain clearly what evidence is necessary to secure in order to obtain convictions in the above cases and how it should be secured.

Fourth paper; Report, Weight 2.

A Captain of Police should be thoroughly acquainted with his precinct. This acquaintance should include a general knowledge of the inhabitants and the various buildings and familiarity with the special problems of that particular locality.

Write a report to the Municipal Civil Service Commission based on the above statements. In this report you will include the following points:

(a) As Captain, explain exactly and in detail the methods you would adopt in training your subordinates to make proper observations and reports of conditions in the precinct with a view to detecting, repressing and preventing crime.

(b) Give the reasons why such specialized knowledge of precincts is essential to the efficient performance of the duties of the Police Department as at present organized.

N. B. 1. In writing this report, the chief consideration will be given to the knowledge of the subject shown by the candidate and the value of the ideas expressed. Consideration will be given also to clearness and conciseness of expression.

N. B. 2. Sign this report—"Respectfully submitted, John Doe, Captain First Precinct." If you sign any other name, title or initials, it will be considered as a mark of identification and your paper will not be rated. There will be no deviation from this rule.

LEONHARD FELIX FIELD, New York City.

A Warning to Judges and the Police.—"The plea of alibi is readily put forth by accused in criminal cases as the easiest to think of and often under the impression that absence from the scene of offense altogether will be a complete answer to the accusation, as no doubt it will be when the exact time and place of absence is well established. But with the illiterate and ignorant whose conceptions of time and distance are rarely accurate no defense is more easily broken or more readily discredited by judges. It does not follow, however, that every plea of alibi put forth should be lightly walked over by responsible officers almost as so many confessions of guilt as they might indeed appear at times. Here is a solemn warning to be enshrined in the hearts of all whom it may concern:

"The *Amrit Bazar Patrika* publishes a sensational account of how an inno-

cent person was convicted of murder and sentenced to be hanged, but who fortunately was saved from the gallows by a merest accident. The story reads like a novel. In a murder case, the accused, Krista Mhatu by name, pleaded 'alibi,' saying that he was at a village eight miles distant from the scene of murder when the alleged murder was committed. The police did not stop to make inquiries, and the sessions judge, while finding that they ought to have verified the statement, disbelieved the plea of alibi and convicted Krista Mahatu along with two others, of murder. The High Court confirmed the sentence on appeal and the local and Indian governments refused to exercise their right of mercy in behalf of the accused. Hangmen were brought from Ranchi to the jail where the convicted prisoners were imprisoned that they might be duly taken to the gallows on the fixed date. But during the interval Babu Prafulla Chandra Bisvas, pleader, happened to meet Babu Nanda Lal Banerjee—sub-inspector of police, and in the course of conversation came to know certain facts which made him think that there was something wrong in the conviction of Krista Mahatu. Some further proofs followed by similar accidents. The pleader wrote to the jailor, requesting him to stay the execution by the use of his extraordinary powers, which the jailor did, he too being by accident in possession of information of a similar import. Then followed inquiries by Mr. Middleton, Joint Magistrate, whose tentative report led the government to stay the execution. Mr. Hingel, the deputy commissioner, then took up the inquiries and paid a surprise visit to the village where Krista Mahatu said he was while the murder was committed. As the result of the inquiry, he was let off outright and the sentence of the other two was commuted to transportation for life."—From *International Police Service Magazine*, Dec., 1914, p. 533.

After-Care of Delinquents.—The period of convalescence is recognized by all workers for delinquents as of supreme importance in the history of their cases. Success or failure is determined perhaps in a majority of cases by developments in this critical period. Recognition of this principle is of course essential to any sort of parole work. Legal sanction is often given roughly to the principle, as, for illustration, in Illinois where no application for parole is granted to a prisoner until definite arrangements have been made for placing him in satisfactory employment. Prisoners' Aid Societies also recognize the principle. But on the whole the working out of methods of follow-up or after-care of youths and adults discharged from penal or reformatory institutions is still rather unorganized and sporadic.

If our penal system has come to rest upon the sanctions of reformation and social utility in its treatment of the delinquent, and this is the obvious meaning of the indeterminate sentence, the committing agencies and the institutions that carry out their instructions must assume the responsibility of doing a good and complete job. That responsibility does not end when the court pronounces sentence, nor when the prison doors open to release an inmate. Neither does mere supervision after release satisfy even the minimum requirements of adequate after-care. It is notorious that most recidivism is the result of plunging a boy or man after his release from incarceration back into the very environment which was largely the cause of his original trouble. If the institution has been at all successful—and we are assured that very few boys or men are released lacking in high new resolves for decent living—the individual